

WEST & MIDDLE CHINNOCK PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 5th December 2018

Cllr Shaun McMillan (Chair)
Cllr Mark Bennett (Vice Chair)
Cllr Phillipa Coleman

Cllr Tony Cawley
Cllr Raymond Bailey
Cllr Bill Mannering
Clerk, Kim Duller
8 Members of the Public

Public Forum:

i) Pot hole: At the bottom of Ridgway, going on to Scotts Way, marked and reported.
ii) Presentation, Chinnock Chase 10K Run by Damian Hart: Objective to raise funds for a new West Chinnock School library. Registration fees will contribute towards fundraising. Event is planned for 18th May 2019 and will include a children's race, 5k and 10K race with an evening event in the Muddled Man. The PC was supportive of the project however mindful of a number of concerns within its remit which had already been raised. The Chair of the PC, Shaun McMillan agreed to work with the organising committee to ensure that any issues or concerns are fully considered prior to the event.

18/516 Apologies for absence: None

18/517 Declarations of interest: Cllr Tony Cawley, Allotments.

18/518 Minutes of the meeting held 7th November 2018: These having been circulated were taken as read. No amendments. Signed as a true record.

18/519 Matters arising (Other than agenda items): None.

18/520 County Councillor's report: i) Western Corridor in Yeovil being completed quicker than originally expected. ii) A356 signage still an issue and Cllr Keating has escalated to Andy Coupe. The Chair reported that the drains at Tail Mill and at the bottom of Bow Bridge junction with the A356 are flooding regularly and are dangerous. Cllr Keating requested that the Parish Council report this flooding and copy him in on the email. **Action: Cllr Bennett to report.** iii) Cllr Keating confirmed he was taking over responsibility to address the issues relating to the creation of the unofficial lay by on Smiths Hill and will report back directly to the PC.

18/521 District Councillor's report: i) Cllr Pallister advised that the external SSDC audit was "clear". ii) Cllr Pallister confirmed that there were no legal or procedural issues from SSDC relating to the Somersby planning application, which the PC had previously raised concerns on regarding the lack of notice period for the second submission and change of plans. ii) Cllr Pallister confirmed he had spoken to Yarlington and Highways regarding the stability of the bank on Smiths Hill and agreed to work with Cllr Keating to resolve the outstanding concerns.

18/522 a) Applications:

i) 18/02794/HOU: 5 Layne Terrace. The Clerk confirmed that the application has been withdrawn.

ii) 18/02330/LBC: 70 Lower Street. To raise the height of the 2 No chimney stacks and alterations to the living room fire. **No comments or observations from the Parish Council.**

b) Applications Since Time of the Agenda: None

c) Determinations: None

18/523 Finance:

a) Precept: The Clerk had circulated a copy of precepts from parishes of a similar size. It was noted that West Chinnock was in the "middle" range of precepts. The Parish Council considered the precept to be reasonable based on its legislative responsibilities of and the

demographics of the village. Councillors agreed they would be open to further discussion in

the next year if local groups and organisations felt there was a requirement to raise additional funds through the precept to make grants, however it was agreed this would need consultation with residents. It was agreed that the Clerk should submit the precept for 2018/19 at the same level as 2017/ 2018.

b) To Pay Clerks 3rd Qtr Salary: £588.00. Agreed unanimously.

c) To Pay Clerks 3rd Qtr Expenses: £208.59. Agreed Unanimously.

d) To Pay Somerset Landscapes October 2018 invoice for grass cutting: £208.26. Agreed unanimously.

e) To Pay British Bins for the Green Salt Bin: £93.60. Agreed unanimously.

d) To Pay Tony Cawley for Materials to Mend the Fence Posts at the Recreation Ground: £45.00. Agreed unanimously.

e) To Pay Raymond Bailey for Hedge Trimming at the Recreation Ground and Allotments: Agreed Unanimously.

f) To Pay HMRC December invoice: £147.00. Agreed Unanimously.

g) To Pay Routine or Previously Agreed Invoices: None

Allotments:

a) Feedback from Allotment Committee:

i) Plots 14 & 15, non compliance with good husbandry regulations: The Allotment Committee agreed that due to the winter season, the current condition of the plots was considered to be acceptable.

ii) Confirmation of weed killer used on plots 14 & 15: Following on from the November PC meeting, the Allotment Committee had not been able to confirm what type of weed killer had been used on the plots. **Action: Clerk to write to tenant to request confirmation of the weed killer which has been used.**

iii) Feedback from Allotment Committee agreements minuted at the October meeting relating to informal inspections, cultivation and good husbandry standards and to discuss new and revised email proposals received from the Allotment Committee: The Allotment Committee explained that their proposals were still being considered and they were not yet at a point where any further discussions could take place. The Chair explained that whilst the PC appreciated the difficulties with the current Committee structure, there needed to be absolute clarity on the role of the Committee as a “proper “organisation as the current informal status was impacting on the amount of time the PC were now spending on Allotment matters, which had financial implications. **Action: It was agreed that in order to move forward positively and pro-actively the Chair would meet with Jenny Coman before the next Parish Council meeting to agree a way forward to take back to the PC.**

iv) National Allotment Society Membership: The Clerk had applied for membership, however had been advised that it would take 28 days for the membership to become operational.

v) Tenants Liability Insurance: It was agreed that a new clause would be added to the Allotment contracts to ensure that all Allotment holders have their own liability insurance for their plots. **Action: Jenny to check if this is covered by individual tenants membership with NSALG membership.**

Matters Arising from November Meeting:

a) Improved Disabled Access to Recreation Ground: Still no response had been received from SSDC. Cllr Cawley has made repairs to the bridge, but it was agreed that in the longer term and in order to assist with disabled access, a new bridge is required. The Clerk was asked to take this item off of the agenda until a response had been received from SSDC, but to also consider the access issue within the new Recreational Ground Committee.

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- b) Hollowell Hill – Land use query:** A visit by Members hasn't taken place yet. **Action: Cllr Bennett to suggest dates for meeting with owner and Clerk to co-ordinate setting up of meeting with other Members. Clerk to resend contact details.**
- c) The Haunts, Creation of Parking Space on Public Highway:** Previously discussed under items 18/520 and 18/521.
- d) Complaint at Recreation Ground 6th April 2018:** The original complainants have followed up with Luton Town Chair. **Update at February Meeting.**
- e) Grit update:** No further information. **Action the Clerk was asked to investigate how other Parish Councils are dealing with un filled pot holes after some recent news coverage on PCs taking on filling holes themselves.**
- f) Grit Bin Purchase Mechams:** Purchased, awaiting delivery.
- g) Neighbourhood Watch:** Clerk has had correspondence with Michelle Haines, the PCs PCSO contact. It was agreed that a "come and meet our local PCSO" event would be held before the next Parish Council meeting on 6th February between 6.30 and 7.30pm. **Action: Clerk to advertise event and to continue to follow up Neighbourhood Watch Scheme.**
- h) Grill over Higher Street Well:** The PC considered this to be safe and review in March 2019.
- i) Recreation Ground Purchase and Development:** Neil Cochran kindly agreed to Chair a small team in place to kick start the scoping of the project and then invite more volunteers once the project had been scoped out. **Action: Clerk to liaise with Neil.**
- j) Footpath complaint, Hollowell Hill to Kempster's Farm:** After discussion it was agreed more information is required. **Action: Clerk to follow up and walk the route.**
- k) The Knapp:** The Chair and Clerk met with the owner of Tree Cottage to discuss the previous issues raised. As a result of a report from the SSDC tree officer it was agreed that the trees do not present any danger. However it was agreed that the concrete drive across the Knapp should be mended to prevent any form of tripping for people walking across the land when using the Right of Way.. **Action: It was agreed the owner of Tree Cottage would carry out maintenance to the concrete to ensure that it did not present any tripping risk, whilst ensuring that there is no root damage to trees. The Chair will report back on the works at the February meeting.**
- l) Mud on Road, Scotts Lane to Bow Bridge:** The Chair has been unable to speak to the relevant farmer. **Action: Carry forward to February meeting.**

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Reports & Correspondence:

- a) Highways & Drains:** No new issues apart from those already discussed.
- b) Flood Campaign:** For Information.
- c) County Wide Parking Review:** For Information.
- d) GetSet Closure of Level 1 and 2 Services Consultation:** For Information.
- e) Fit For Future Consultation:** For Information.
- f) Connecting Devon & Somerset Broadband.** For Information.
- g) Community Policing Update:** For Information.

18/527

Correspondence Received Since Time of Agenda:

- a) Parish Paths Consultation:** Cllr McMillan agreed to submit information to the consultation on behalf of the PC.
- b) Main Gate at Recreation Ground:** Now this is being kept closed, it seems to have appeared to reduce the amount of litter and damage to the fences at the Rec. It was suggested the Recreational Committee also consider the current entrance to the Rec as part of the bigger project.
- c) Cllr Bailey Standing Down:** Cllr Bailey announced he would be standing down at the May elections.

The meeting ended at 8.45pm, followed by Christmas drinks and nibbles provided by members of the Parish Council and the Clerk.

Next Meeting

Wednesday 6th February 2019, 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

An informal come and meet your our local PCSO event will take place between 6.30pm and 7.30pm, before the Parish Council Meeting.

Tea, coffee and biscuits will be served.

All residents are welcome to come and meet the PCSO as well as ask any questions they may have.